

Amendments to the Specification

On page 2, please amend the specification, before the first line, with the replacement sentence:

"This is a divisional of copending application serial No. 09/272,902, filed on March 19, 1999, now U.S. Patent 6,297,943 B1,issued October 2, 2001."

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service as 1st Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Honorable Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on

Jeanne H. Suga